

Pat nt claims:

1. An oil-in-water emulsion, in particular O/W microemulsion
 - (a) comprising at least one emulsifier (emulsifier A), chosen from the group of emulsifiers having the following properties
 - their lipophilicity is either dependent on the pH inasmuch as an increase or decrease in the pH results in an increase or decrease in lipophilicity, it being unimportant which of the two possibilities for change in the lipophilicity is effected by the increase or decrease in pH, and/or
 - their lipophilicity is dependent on the temperature inasmuch as the lipophilicity increases with increasing temperature and their hydrophilicity increases with decreasing temperature,
 - (b) also optionally further substances which are soluble or dispersible in the oil phase or the water phase, preferably including those chosen from the group of emulsifiers which do not fall under the definition of emulsifier A, in particular those which act primarily as W/O emulsifiers,
 - (c) an effective amount of dihydroxyacetone.
2. The O/W macroemulsion or O/W microemulsion as claimed in claim 1, wherein the emulsifier A or the emulsifiers A is or are present in concentrations of 0.01 – 20% by weight, preferably 0.05 – 10% by weight, particularly preferably 0.1 – 5% by weight, in each case based on the total weight of the composition.
3. The O/W macroemulsion or O/W microemulsion as claimed in claim 1, wherein the total amount of dihydroxyacetone in the finished cosmetic or dermatological preparations is chosen from the range 0.1 – 10.0% by weight, preferably 0.5 – 6.0% by weight, based on the total weight of the preparations.

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